

May 11, 1987

LB 784
LR 160

pages 2174-77 of the Legislative Journal.)

Study resolution LR 160 by Senator Conway. (Read introduction to resolution as found on pages 2173-74 of the Legislative Journal.) That will be referred to Reference Committee.

Mr. President, the next amendment I have to the bill is by Senator Haberman. It is found on page 2122 of the Journal.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Haberman, for the purpose of an amendment.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and members of the body, I'm asking for \$15,000. I believe that this \$15,000 will go forward to help more children...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Haberman, excuse me. (Gavel.) Proceed.

SENATOR HABERMAN: The \$15,000 that I'm asking for goes to the Foster Care Review Board. I'm not going into a long dissertation of the Foster Care Review Board as I feel that most of you here know of the extreme importance of the work that they do. The Foster Care Review Board in just three years tracked 13,000 children. They are very, very important. What they are asking for is a full-time person. As it is now, the Review Board had one full-time staff assistant for six boards in Omaha, seven other staff assistants are on contract. The local boards are composed of volunteers so the training is an on-going effort. They are asked to meet with judges, county attorneys, foster parents and so on and so forth. There are 17 local review boards and eight staff, contracted staff assistants. Local boards are in Scottsbluff, North Platte, Norfolk, Grand Island, Kearney, Hastings. Omaha has seven, Lincoln has three and Bellevue, so I feel that we couldn't spend \$15,000 more any wiser than to have a full-time staff person for the Foster Care Review Board and I ask that you adopt this amendment, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, sir. Discussion on the Haberman amendment, Senator Warner, followed by Senators Chizek and Lynch.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this is another agency that had asked for an increased staff position, as I'm not real clear on the 15,000. As I recall, the